

6PM

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

An out-of-shape, pasty, white guy, DAVID (24), works alone. He seems to have complete command of the kitchen.

David assembles two Whoppers and an Original Chicken sandwich simultaneously. Without breaking focus:

DAVID  
(To someone O.S.)  
Eddie, drop fries, please.

Just then, a chubby, biracial girl, LASHAY (20), walks up next to David.

LASHAY  
Hi.

DAVID  
Hey. Just gimme one sec, all right?

Lashay takes a step back as --

David folds the wrappers then drops the food down the chute.

DAVID  
'riginal and two Whoppers. Fries  
got a minute left.

KRISTEN (O.S.)  
Okay.

A worker who's been aged by smoking, KRISTEN (29), walks up to the chute and grabs the food.

KRISTEN  
Fries?

DAVID  
One minute, I already told you.

David takes off his gloves and turns to Lashay.

DAVID  
Hey. Lindsay, right?

LASHAY  
Lashay.

DAVID  
I know. Just fuckin' with you.

Lashay chuckles.

DAVID  
You ever done any of this shit  
before?

LASHAY  
Nope.

DAVID  
Good. You'll do fine.

Just then, a beep comes through the P.A. as a car pulls up to the speaker outside.

DAVID  
Wash up, then gloves.

David goes to the sink then quickly washes his hands. He slips on a pair of gloves.

CUSTOMER (V.O.)  
(Through the P.A.)  
I need a cheeseburger meal...  
That's it.

DAVID  
(Mutters, to himself)  
Want, not need, guy.

David and Lashay walk back to the counter.

DAVID  
Drop one of the buns, top row.

Lashay turns to the bun rack on her right, takes a bun and drops it into the toaster.

DAVID  
Take one of these wraps and put the  
bottom bun dead-center.

David points to a "Cheeseburger" wrapper.

Lashay takes one and does as he says.

DAVID  
Take one of these burgers --

KRISTEN (O.S.)  
David, are you having her do that?

David glares over at Kristen.

DAVID  
She's fine.

KRISTEN  
She just started. She needs to be  
shown how to do this.

DAVID  
I am showing her how to do this.

KRISTEN  
But, she's --

DAVID  
Shut up, Kristen. I trained you and  
you turned out fine. She's fine.

Kristen goes to deal with a customer at the front.

David turns to Lashay.

LASHAY  
Thanks.

DAVID  
Grab a burger from this pan.

Lashay does so.

DAVID  
One slice of cheese, two pickles  
not overlapping each other, one  
swirl of ketchup, one swirl of  
mustard. Okay?

LASHAY  
Yeah.

David walks away and puts down a tray of fries.

When he returns, the burger is prepared.

DAVID  
Good. Now, you fold it like this.  
Bottom-half, then top-half, fold  
the sides into a triangle, wrap  
them underneath.

Lashay folds the wrapper as David explains.

DAVID  
All there is to it.

Lashay sends the cheeseburger down the chute then looks to David and smiles.

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The room is dark and cluttered with empty water bottles on the floor and clothes strewn across a computer chair.

David sits on his bed, Indian-style, typing on a laptop.

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David and Lashay work in tandem at the counter.

As Lashay folds up the wrapper, David looks up to the computer monitor above them.

DAVID

Next: two Whoppers. One cheese, one not.

LASHAY

Got it.

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David types on his laptop at a feverish pace.

Then, he makes a single mistake, which freezes him in place.

David pauses, leaning his head back against the wall.

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

Lashay works by herself at the counter.

David sets up an order of fries.

LASHAY

David, what do you do?

DAVID

What do you mean?

David goes next to Lashay, as they work together.

LASHAY

You never talk about yourself.

DAVID  
There's nothing to talk about.

David glances up at the monitor.

DAVID  
Two 'riginals, two double cheese  
and a T-crisp.

They assemble all their food while talking.

LASHAY  
Yeah, but you ask all these things  
about me and you never tell me  
anything about yourself.

DAVID  
I don't wanna bore you.

LASHAY  
I don't think you could bore me.

DAVID  
I write.

LASHAY  
That's not boring.

DAVID  
You've obviously never tried it.

Lashay chuckles.

LASHAY  
You got any I could read?

DAVID  
Yeah, I posted some of it online.

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM = NIGHT

David sits silently at his laptop. He can't write.

Then, he checks his E-mail and finds one from Lashay.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"Hey David it's Lashay I've read  
through 5 stories so far. How did  
you even think of some of these? I  
don't know if you use this email  
but I thought I'd give it a try."

David types up a quick response.

DAVID (V.O.)

"Hey, Lashay. Thank you. How did you even get my E-mail, anyway? I don't remember giving it to you."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"It was on the bottom of your stories silly."

DAVID (V.O.)

"Well, if you're going to read them, I can't stop you. I'd tell you not to read "Night Life", but I know you're going to, anyway. Just don't shit on it too much. Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"It's funny you said you probably won't lol you know me! Why didn't you want me to read it? Was it because it has a happy ending?"

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David works alone at the counter.

Lashay is nowhere to be found.

David seems a little more down today than usual.

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David waits patiently at the laptop, with his E-mail open.

Every few seconds, he refreshes.

Then, a new E-mail from Lashay appears.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"David I just read your new story. I liked it but it made me kind of sad I remember one of our first talks you told me you wanted to kill yourself. Is that why you named the character after yourself this time? You better not do something like that!"

DAVID (V.O.)

"It shouldn't make you sad. I'm too old for any of that bullshit anymore. Knowing my luck, I'll be forced to live forever. Lol."

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David and Lashay work together at the counter. It's almost as if the entire world doesn't exist, except for them.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"If you caused your own death I'd go to your funeral if just to be mad at you..."

DAVID (V.O.)

"You stay away from my funeral or I'll come back and haunt you. Lol."

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David checks his E-mail and finds a song excerpt. He plays the audio file.

It is of Lashay, doing a cover of Vanessa Carlton's "A Thousand Miles".

LASHAY (V.O.)

"I was sitting here and I remembered you said you'd try and get me to sing for you I never will in person lol but here's a clip!"

DAVID (V.O.)

"Are you trying to make me go deaf? I kid, I kid. Actually, I messed up with the volume and had everything up full blast. Look, there's no logical reason for you to be afraid of singing in public, but I think I get it. Unfortunately, I don't think you're in the running for the Grammys this year, but you're a shoo-in for next year."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Your fault not mine next time check your volume levels David! And aw thanks."



INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

David walks in and doesn't bother turning on the light. He grabs a water bottle from the refrigerator.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Hey David huge favor is it possible you could bring me home on Monday and pick me up and bring me home on Wednesday? I live literally a mile from Burger King it's not far! Alec got into a car accident we literally have no car!"

DAVID (V.O.)

"Shouldn't be a problem."

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David and Lashay work together at the counter.

DAVID (V.O.)

"Just so we're clear, I'm picking you up tomorrow?"

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Lol I thought you didn't know where I live. I'd love to be picked up! But would you know how to get there?"

DAVID (V.O.)

"You gave me the address and I have Mapquest, so it shouldn't be an issue."

EXT. LASHAY'S HOUSE - DAY

David's low-end Hyundai Elantra backs up the driveway to the front of a duplex-type building.

INT. DAVID'S CAR - THEN

David closely checks out the side and rearview mirrors. He sees Lashay emerge from the house in her BK uniform.

Lashay knocks on the passenger's side window.

David looks over.

DAVID

It's open.

Lashay gets in as David checks the rearview mirror once more.

David sees ALEC (22), a gruff, black man, watching the two of them from the front window.

DAVID

You all set?

LASHAY

Yeah. Thank you for picking me up.

DAVID

Like you said, it's only a mile.

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David looks up at a whiteboard which reads:

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH  
DAVID CARLISLE

Below that is an envelope, which David takes and rips open.

David finds a \$50 Visa prepaid card.

David looks over to his manager, JENNA ANDREWS (27), who smiles at him.

DAVID

Thank you.

JENNA

You earned it.

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David looks through his E-mails.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"You shouldn't have given me that card it was yours."

DAVID (V.O.)

"I wouldn't have used it. What did you get with it, anyway?"

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"Nothing special lol diapers some  
snacks milk lol mom things bought  
you a gift too."

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David walks in to find Lashay standing by Jenna's office.

Lashay points inside.

David looks inside to see a white rose sitting inside a large  
Burger King cup and a Kit Kat bar.

LASHAY  
You told me how much you liked  
white roses.

DAVID  
I do.  
(Turns to Lashay)  
Thank you.

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David sits with his laptop.

The rose sits in a cocktail glass by the window and the Kit  
Kat leans up against the glass.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"I've come to the conclusion let's  
just get married."

DAVID (V.O.)  
"Is there any way to say "no"  
without sounding like a dick? Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"David it wasn't a question were  
getting married and that's all  
there is to it. Monday after work  
I'll bring the rings you bring the  
alcohol lol."

DAVID (V.O.)  
""Were getting married"... Good to  
know that it's past tense and not  
going to happen, now. Thank you.  
Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "Lmao David we are getting married  
 Monday!"

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David works by himself.

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "What about your boyfriend? I don't  
 share."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "David you don't have to share I'm  
 all yours!"

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David sits with his laptop.

The empty Kit Kat wrapper rests next to the cocktail glass.

An E-mail from Lashay pops up. He's hesitant to open it.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "Hey can you pick me up tm?"

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "I certainly can. Whether or not I  
 will, I haven't decided, yet. Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "That's not nice I have to know  
 whether or not I need to take the  
 bus."

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "Nope. Take the bus. That's what  
 you get for Runaway Bride-ing me  
 yesterday. Lol."

David chuckles to himself.

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "In case it's not obvious, I'm  
 kidding. 'Course I'll pick you up."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "I really thought you were serious  
 lol! And we could always get  
 married tomorrow!

(MORE)

LASHAY (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
I already told people I asked you  
to marry me but you shot me down  
though".

DAVID (V.O.)  
"I didn't shoot you down. I showed  
up at work in a tux, all ready to  
go, but nooooo... You shot me down.  
I was truly heartbroken. Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"Lmfao you're such a liar David!!!"

DAVID  
If only you knew the half of it.

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David and Lashay work at the counter. They seem to be  
standing closer together than usual.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"I never actually told you this but  
I kinda think you're cute."

David looks over at Lashay as she grabs burger buns.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"I'm sorry David my boyfriend is  
messaging you. He saw us joking  
about being married and thought I  
was cheating on him."

DAVID (V.O.)  
"That's okay. I didn't figure you  
were serious about that, anyway."

As Lashay looks over at David, he returns to work.

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David is lying down in his bed.

However, his eyes are wide open. He stares across at a  
digital clock which reads: 2:31.

After a moment of lying there, he sits up and grabs his  
laptop off the floor and turns it on.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"Why wouldn't you think I was  
serious?"

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "I know my limitations. But, like you said, you didn't write the message."

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David works at the counter, looking tired-eyed. He works almost robotically, not showing any emotion.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "David I feel a little weird telling you this but I like you not in a joking way but really."

As soon as David finishes off that order, he immediately moves on to the next.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "David you there?"

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "Sorry, I was assuming Alec was messaging me again and decided to ignore it."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "No really this is from me. I'm sorry that you thought I didn't mean it."

The pair of tongs David holds slip from his hand. He doesn't even acknowledge it.

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David is hunched over the laptop.

The petals on the rose have started to wilt.

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "Truth is, Lashay, that I like you, too. I have pretty much since the day you started here."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "You don't know how good it feels to hear you say that this whole time I thought you did but I couldn't tell for sure."

DAVID (V.O.)

"Yeah, I've learned over a long period of time that, if I'm feeling something, I should keep it to myself, which is what I was trying to do in the first place."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"What do you mean?"

David sets the laptop aside and opens the door to his room. He walks into the --

LIVING ROOM

All the lights are off. No one seems to be home.

DAVID (V.O.)

"I'd prefer not to talk about it. I just thought you should know why I didn't say anything before now."

David heads for the kitchen.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"You can tell me anything David I'll believe you."

DAVID (V.O.)

"No, thanks. Lol."

INT. HOUSE - KITCHEN - THEN

David opens the refrigerator and grabs a bottle of water.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Why do you have to be so defensive David?"

DAVID (V.O.)

"Practice. Lots and lots of practice."

David shuts the door and heads back for his bedroom.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Lol let your guard down David it's hard but I have faith in you!"

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David works alone at the counter. After completing an order, he turns to look at the stock room where --

Lashay is peeking at him from behind the wall. She hides when he turns to look at her.

DAVID (V.O.)

"You don't have to be nervous when you're around me, you know? Except when I was in high school, but that's something different. Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"I don't know why but I get butterflies when I'm around you lately."

DAVID (V.O.)

"Sorry."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"No it's not you it's me silly."

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David sits with the laptop.

The rose is almost completely dead.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"I cracked up so hard today when you called me Lindsay lol it was hilarious!"

DAVID (V.O.)

"Throwback to the old days."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"I still can't believe you told me you liked me. So every time I said you liked me and you said no you were just being an asshole lol?"

DAVID (V.O.)

"It's pretty much my only tangible skill."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"What do you like about me David?"



DAVID (V.O.)

"Lots of things. You're smart, sarcastic, nice and you're genuine. You're real. I don't think there's a proper way to describe that one, so come up with your best interpretation. In some ways, you're like me. In others, you're the polar opposite. I think it's the opposites that I like best about you."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Aw David you have me blushing over here... I feel like this is a dream because I've wanted you to say you like me since I met you."

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David and Lashay work together at the counter. He grabs a wrapper and sets it down.

Lashay places her hand gently on top of his.

They pause and look each other in the eye.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Me and Alec are done he cheated again four days ago and I caught him trying to cheat again yesterday."

DAVID (V.O.)

"I'm sorry."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"I'm alright he's just not the right one for me and I'm okay with that."

DAVID (V.O.)

"I don't think I'm the right one for you, either. You can do a lot better than me."

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David sits with the laptop.

The cocktail glass is still there but the rose is gone.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Stop underestimating yourself  
David you're great. I like you. And  
I want you. You are perfect for me  
nobody else."

DAVID (V.O.)

"I underestimate myself because who  
knows me better than me? Lol."

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David works by himself at the counter.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"I don't care what you try you're  
not getting away from me we are  
married remember?"

DAVID (V.O.)

"They sent me to the bank today and  
I drove right by your house. For  
the briefest of moments, I  
considered stopping by."

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David sits with the laptop.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"I would have been so excited if  
you stopped by. I looked cute today  
lol."

DAVID (V.O.)

"Obviously. You look cute every  
day."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"So I have an idea but you have to  
say yes."

DAVID (V.O.)

"There's no way in hell I'd agree  
to that without hearing it first,  
especially when you type it in that  
tone of voice. Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"I want to go over your house  
Friday night!

(MORE)

LASHAY (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
We can watch movies and hangout  
outside of Burger King!"

DAVID (V.O.)  
"Why would we hang out outside of  
BK? Lol. What possible good from  
hanging out at work on a day off?"

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"You're kidding, right? I mean hang  
out outside of work lol."

DAVID (V.O.)  
"Why don't we pick a neutral zone  
first or am I not even a part of  
this discussion? Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"David no discussion here lol I  
want to see your house and your  
room where the great David spends  
his time lol and you can't leave  
your house! So Friday night lol  
make sure you clean your room lol!  
I say 6?"

DAVID (V.O.)  
"Hey, I'm not going to be a  
pushover this time. I demand to be  
a part of this very one-sided  
discussion. Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
"David I'm very convincing and I  
don't back down easily lol I want  
to see your house and your room  
lol."

DAVID (V.O.)  
"6, it is."

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David works by himself at the counter. He looks over his  
shoulder at the window to the Manager's office.

Lashay and Jenna are in there, talking to each other.

David can't hear what they're saying, but can tell they're  
both talking about him.

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David sits with his laptop. He looks at the digital clock.

The time reads: 12:48.

David checks again: 1:51. 2:24. 3:01.

By now, David looks exhausted, but still can't take his eyes off the laptop.

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

David looks barely able to function as he works at a snail's pace, putting buns in the toaster.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Just so you know everyone knows about our date Friday."

DAVID (V.O.)

"I had a feeling they would, eventually."

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David finishes off a bottle of water.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Ugh Heather just asked me to come in early I hate BK."

DAVID (V.O.)

"I know a dozen or so people who are in that same boat with you. Why the hell do we all stay? Lol."

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Money?"

INT. BURGER KING - KITCHEN - DAY

Lashay works by herself at the counter. She's in good spirits, but seems just the slightest bit jittery.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"Today's the big day excited?"

DAVID (V.O.)

"Nervous. Very, very nervous."

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "Stop it you'll be fine I'll be out  
 by 3 is 6 still good?"

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "Yeah, 6 is still good. But,  
 Lashay, you don't think this is a  
 mistake, do you?"

Lashay reaches for her cell phone and types a message.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "Doesn't feel like it."

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David sits with the laptop.

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "Yeah, me neither. I think  
 everything's going to be okay."

David waits patiently, but refreshes his E-mail list every  
 few seconds.

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "Lashay? Usually, you respond a bit  
 quicker than this. Everything  
 good?"

David tightens his fist, getting worried now.

DAVID (V.O.)  
 "Lashay?"

Then, an E-mail appears.

As fast as he can, David clicks on it and his look is that of  
 pure devastation.

LASHAY (V.O.)  
 "David I'm sorry I can't go out  
 with you tn. Please don't think  
 it's you because it's absolutely  
 not you I promise. I'm so sorry I  
 tossed and turned all night afraid  
 to hurt you I'm an idiot Alec  
 wanted to try one final time and I  
 said okay. Probably a huge mistake  
 but I'm trying to do what's best  
 for my son too... I hope you'll  
 forgive me David."

David puts his head in his hands after reading it.

After a moment of sitting like that, he composes himself and types a reply.

DAVID (V.O.)

"What are you sorry about? Don't you dare be sorry about doing what's best for you and your son. And, don't think for a second that I don't understand. It's perfectly alright. If you want to give him another shot, believe me when I say I'm happy for you. Regardless of whatever he did in the past, I think he's more capable of giving you what you need than I am. Of course, if he isn't and he does it again, never blame yourself for it. You're strong and smart and only you know what's best for you. I have my fingers crossed for you that it isn't a mistake, but on the off-chance that it is, just remember, that's why they put erasers on pencils. And, you don't need me to forgive you. This is what I told you from the beginning, that you needed somebody better than me. I'm wishing you all the luck in the world."

With his hands still hovering above the keyboard, David has a moment of realization.

DAVID

(To himself, devastated)

I knew it.

(Shakes his head)

Fuckin' knew it.

EXT. STORE - NIGHT - SAME TIME

Lashay, looking gorgeous without her work uniform, walks out of the store, towards her Jeep Wrangler.

INT. JEEP WRANGLER - THEN

Lashay gets in and types a message on her phone.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"David I'm sorry I didn't get back to you Alec and I had another fight and he broke my phone so I couldn't access my E-mail account anymore. But I'm still excited to go out tonight with you. I'll be there in 15 minutes okay? You better be ready when I get there lol."

INT. HOUSE - DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David stares down at the laptop with a stone-like expression.

The E-mail from Lashay remains unopened.

O.S. A horn honks. Then, once more, not impatiently.

David doesn't acknowledge this.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"David I'm outside right now we going or what?"

David's hands remain flat on the keyboard...

...As blood pools on the laptop from his slit wrists.

The light from the laptop screen fades then goes into hibernate. The room goes dark.

FADE OUT.

LASHAY (V.O.)

"David?"

THE END.